# Maine Ethics Commission E-Filing Instructions

## **HOW TO FILE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS**

Filing Tip

You can enter your financial transactions as they occur rather than waiting until the end of the reporting period or the day of the deadline.

The transactions you enter and save will be stored in the system. Stored transactions are not displayed to the public until you click the **FILE** button and file your report.

You don't have to wait until the deadline to file your report. If all financial transactions for the reporting period have been entered, you can file the report anytime. **STEP 1:** Make sure that you have entered all contributions, expenditures, debts and loans for the reporting period.

**STEP 2:** To get to the page where you file your reports (the **Filing Administration** page), click the **FILE A REPORT** button on your homepage OR click the **VIEW / FILE REPORTS** tab from any page in the system.



**STEP 3:** Now you are on the **Filing Administration** page. In the **Reports Due** table, click the **VIEW / FILE** link in the last column on the right for the report that is due.

#### Filing Administration Welcome back: Last Login: Sep 11 2014 12:45PM Help with this page Candidate: ID: Reports Due Action Period Begin Period End **Due Date** Status Report 11-DAY PRE-GENERAL 9/17/2014 10/21/2014 Not Filed 10/24/2014 View/File 42-DAY POST-GENERAL 10/22/2014 12/9/2014 12/16/2014 Not Filed

### MCEA CANDIDATES:

Please remember that your treasurer or deputy treasurer must file the report. MCEA candidates can enter transactions but cannot file the report.

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(cont.)

**STEP 4:** Now you can see a summary of the report. Look the summary over to make sure the totals are correct.

File Campaign Finance Report 11-DAY PRE-GENERAL Report Name Report Due Date 10/24/2014 Committee Reporting Period 09/17/2014 through 10/21/2014 Committee Type Candidate Committee ID Preview Review the report detail before submitting. File this report. Return to the Filings Administration page. (Data will be saved but report will not be filed.) Summary of activity since last filed report TOTAL FOR CAMPAIGN TOTAL FOR PERIOD RECEIPTS CASH CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION (SCHEDULE A) \$0.00 \$11,900.00 CASH CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION (SCHEDULE A) \$0.00 \$0.00 CASH CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION RAISED PRIOR TO \$6,125.00 THE PRIMARY (SCHEDULE A) OTHER RECEIPTS (INTEREST, ETC) \$0.00 LOANS (SCHEDULE C) TOTAL RECEIPTS \$0.00 \$20,425.00 EXPENDITURES EXPENDITURES (SCHEDULE B) \$0.00 \$20,253.86 LOAN REPAYMENTS (SCHEDULE C) \$0.00 \$0.00 TOTAL PAYMENTS \$0.00 \$20,253.86 CASH SUMMARY CASH BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD \$171.14 PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS THIS PERIOD \$0.00 MINUS TOTAL PAYMENTS THIS PERIOD \$0.00 CASH BALANCE AT END OF PERIOD \$171.14 OTHER ACTIVITY IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS (SCHEDULE A-1) \$0.00 \$375.00 TOTAL LOAN BALANCE AT END OF PERIOD (SCHEDULE C) \$0.00 TOTAL UNPAID DEBTS AT END OF PERIOD (SCHEDULE D) \$0.00 For Party Candidates Only: Cash contributions for the General Election Rasied prior to Primary Election (Included in Line 1A After Primary

The Summary of Activity displays only the totals of the contributions, expenditures and other transactions you entered. You cannot enter or change anything directly in the summary.

Previewing the report before you file it is a good way to make sure that you entered all your transactions and entered them correctly.

You will also get a system-generated e-mail confirming that the report has been filed.

**STEP 5 (optional):** To preview the entire report before you file it, click the **PREVIEW** button. This will open a new window with a PDF of the report.

Preview Review the report detail before submitting.

**STEP 6:** To file the report, click the **FILE** button.



The system will prompt you to confirm that you have finished entering all the transactions for the report. If you have, click **OK** to file the report. The system will give you a message that the report has been successfully filed. On the confirmation page, click **FINISHED** to return to the **Filing Administration** Page.